

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 8-10, 12, 14, 17-22 are currently under examination, of which claims 19 and 21 are independent claims. Claims 19 and 21 have been amended as shown in the Listing of Claims section. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments do not add new matter and are supported by the specification at least at page 7, lines 14-21 and Figure 1. In view of the amendments and following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102/§103

Claims 2, 3, 8-12, 14, and 17-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,655,633 to Chapman, Jr. ("Chapman"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 19 has been amended to include features that "substantially all of the continuous aluminum oxide fibers are oriented substantially parallel to the longitudinal channels" and claim 21 has been similarly amended to include "substantially all of the continuous aluminum oxide fibers are oriented substantially parallel to the ribs extending between said opposing planar surfaces." Applicant respectfully submits that Chapman does not disclose, teach, or suggest the combination of features of claims 19 and 21.

Chapman does not disclose 1) the width of the channel, 2) the extruded tubular core, 3) metal matrix composite tape on the surfaces of a multi-void core, 4) aluminum oxide reinforcing fibers, and that substantially all of the continuous aluminum oxide fibers are oriented substantially parallel to the longitudinal channels or ribs. Chapman may filament wind fibers

around a structure, but does not disclose utilizing metal matrix composite tape applied to a surface of a core as claimed in claims 19 and 21. Applicant submits for at least these reasons, Chapman does not anticipate or render obvious claims 19 and 21 or the all the claims that depend therefrom.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 2, 10, 11, 14, and 19-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,630,093 to Jones et al. (“Jones”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,968,671 to Joseph (“Joseph”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and request reconsideration for at least the following reasons.

As discussed above, independent claim 19 has been amended to include features that “substantially all of the continuous aluminum oxide fibers are oriented substantially parallel to the longitudinal channels” and claim 21 has been similarly amended to include “substantially all of the continuous aluminum oxide fibers are oriented substantially parallel to the ribs extending between said opposing planar surfaces.” The combination of Jones in view of Joseph fails to disclose 1) the width of the channel, 2) the extruded tubular core, 3) metal matrix composite tape on the surfaces of a multi-void core, 4) aluminum oxide reinforcing fibers, and that substantially all of the continuous aluminum oxide fibers are oriented substantially parallel to the longitudinal channels or ribs. Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Jones in view of Joseph does not disclose, teach, or suggest the combination of features of claims 19 and 21 and the claims 19 and 21 as well as all the claims that depend therefrom are not obvious over Jones in view of Joseph.

Claims 3, 8, 9, 12, 17, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,630,093 to Jones et al. ("Jones") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,968,671 to Joseph ("Joseph"), further in view of Gunnink. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and request reconsideration for at least the following reasons. All of these claims depend from claim 19. As discussed above, the combination of Jones in view of Joseph does not disclose teach or suggest all the features of claim 19. Gunnink does not provide the missing features of claim 19. Therefore, the combination of Jones in view of Joseph in further view of Gunnink still fails to provided all the limitations of claims 19. Further, the additional features of claims 3, 8, 9, 12, 17, and 18 and the features of claim 19 provide a combination of features that are not present in Jones in view of Joseph in further view of Gunnick. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 3, 8, 9, 12, 17, and 18 are not obvious over Jones in view of Joseph further in view of Gunnink.

Double Patenting

Claims 3, 5, 8-10, 12, 14, 17-22 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over copending Application No. 11/000,521. Application No. 11/000,521 is commonly owned with the present application. A terminal disclaimer is being submitted herewith to overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

Extension of Time

A Petition for a three (3)-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) is filed herewith. It is not believed that any further extensions of time are required other than those in the accompanying Petition. If extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned for under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a). Applicant believes that no further fees for net addition of claims are required at this time. Any fees required for extensions of time and any fees for the net addition of claims are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50331.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and respectfully submit that all of the stated objections and grounds for rejection have been overcome or rendered moot. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number below to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 4, 2009

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